

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Amendments to the Claims**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.*

1. Canceled.
2. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 wherein the protein is cell-wall associated, and binds both soluble and immobilized fibrinogen.
3. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 wherein the antibody recognizes a protein that is cell wall-associated, exhibits cation-dependent ligand-binding and has a highly conserved motif of which the consensus sequence is TYTFTDYVD (SEQ ID NO: 16).
4. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 which is raised against the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.
5. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 which is raised against the A region of the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.
6. (Currently amended) The isolated antibody according to Claim 47 wherein the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein comprises SEQ ID NO:10.
7. (Currently amended) ~~The isolated antibody according to Claim 1~~An isolated antibody that binds to an SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis* wherein the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein is encoded by the nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:7.

8. (Currently amended) An isolated antibody according to Claim 7 that recognizes the ligand binding A region of the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

9. (Currently amended) A diagnostic kit comprising the antibody according to Claim 47 and a means for identifying binding by said antibody.

10. (Currently amended) Isolated antisera containing the antibody according to Claim 47.

11-12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The isolated antibody according to Claim 7 wherein said antibody is reactive with a protein that is cell wall-associated, exhibits cation-dependent ligand-binding and has a highly conserved motif of which the consensus sequence is TYTFTDYVD (SEQ ID NO: 16), wherein the protein is isolated from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

14. (Original) An isolated antibody according to Claim 13 wherein the protein comprises the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein isolated from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

15. (Currently amended) An isolated antibody according to Claim ~~43~~7 wherein the ~~protein comprises~~antibody binds to the ligand binding A region of the SdrG fibrinogen-binding protein isolated from coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

16. (New) A diagnostic kit comprising the antibody according to Claim 2 and a means for identifying binding by said antibody.

17. (New) A diagnostic kit comprising the antibody according to Claim 3 and a means for identifying binding by said antibody.